

Chapter 5 — Environmental Commitments

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In addition to the actions described as part of the alternatives, the following commitments are made by Reclamation.

Soil

- Use best management practices to minimize environmental consequences caused by stabilizing activities or constructing the access road.
- Take all standard and reasonable precautions to reduce erosion during and after construction.
- Reseed areas of construction for installation of culverts along the access road at Schoolhouse Creek and around the wetlands to prevent future erosion.
- Restrict the use of the access road to Reclamation, its agents, successors and assigns, and the property owner during dry conditions.
- Use mostly hand labor for bioengineering techniques within the wasteway channel, thereby reducing or eliminating the amount of motorized or heavy equipment use and vehicular disturbance of existing soils.

Water

- Use bioengineering techniques within the wasteway channel to help reduce summer water temperatures.
- Take all standard and reasonable precautions to reduce erosion and limit sediment during and after construction.

Wetlands

- Obtain the appropriate State of Oregon and Corps permits prior to any construction.
- Follow all conditions of State of Oregon and Corps permits.
- Mitigate wetland losses as directed by the CWA 404 permit.

Vegetation

- Reduce the amount of cleared, unvegetated soils by using local native plant species for reseeding and revegetation.
- Use mostly hand labor for bioengineering techniques within the wasteway channel to reduce the effects construction could have on vegetation.
- Lay any trees cut for construction of the access road along the side of the access road for the landowner's use.
- Burn, chip, or bury onsite any slash or debris created during construction of the access road but not used for wasteway bank stabilization.

Fish and Wildlife

- Use mostly hand labor for bioengineering techniques within the wasteway channel, thereby reducing or eliminating the amount of motorized or heavy equipment use, to reduce the temporary effects construction could have on wildlife.
- Plan properly to produce efficiency and timely completion of construction activities with the least amount of people and heavy equipment working at any given time.

Historic Properties

- Minimize impacts to site deposits within the access road corridor that are segments of larger sites where areas beyond the right-of-way have not been evaluated for historic significance. Align the access road route across 35-JA-493 at the west side of the right-of-way. Align the access road route across 35-JA-494 at the east side of the right-of-way.
- Monitor initial soil excavation at site 35-JA-493 to ensure immediate detection in the unlikely event of discovery of potentially significant subsurface deposits that were not revealed during test excavations.
- Comply with National Historic Preservation Act concerning discovery situations. Halt construction work immediately in the area of any historically significant find and notify a Reclamation archeologist. Make an initial assessment of the discovery and, if warranted, notify the SHPO and interested tribes and reinstate site evaluation actions.
- Comply with requirements of State of Oregon burial laws if human remains were encountered.
- Have a contract archeologist on site during any ground disturbing access road construction activities.

Sacred Sites

- Should any areas on Federal land be identified as needing stabilization, Reclamation would notify tribes and ask if they have any issues.

Cascade Siskiyou National Monument

- Contact and coordinate with BLM on wasteway matters within the boundaries of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument.